

Warren County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter 3rd Quarter 2021

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

It's been a long road to home ownership, but the time is finally here for the Irizarry family to take ownership of their new home at 24 Beidleman Road. Their "sweat equity" has paid off, and they will soon be receiving their keys at a



Home Dedication on August 1st at 2 pm. Many thanks to all our volunteers who helped make this dream become a reality for the Irizarry family!



A Landscape Work Day on Saturday, July 24th from 9 am to 3 pm, organized by Warren County faith-based communities, will put finishing touches on the landscaping of both Beidleman Road homes. The work

will include preparing beds, planting flowers/shrubs, and mulching and watering. Because the activity is outdoors and there will not be any actual construction going on, the gathering is available to all ages (children must be supervised). We pray that our faith-based community members will be blessed through our work and fellowship together, by getting our hands dirty and joining in mission with each other.

If you would like to help, please call WCHFH's Faith Relations Director, **Pastor Peter Jamieson**, at **609-504-2881**. Tools will be provided, and so will lunch.

We are pleased to introduce our TWO NEW PARTNER FAMILIES!

Maggi Stergion and Nick Pregenzer have lived in Ox-



ford since 2012. This opportunity brings their family a great deal of hope and pride, and since Nick has never lived in a house before, it brings another level of excitement as well! They are looking forward to the stability and peace of mind a new home will bring to

them and their three children, **Anganita**, age 15, **Sante**, age 13, and **Shane**, age 7.

"A safe and functional home will allow our family to thrive. We are very grateful to Habitat and all of the volunteers who dedicate their time and effort to build homes and provide opportunities to families like ours." Donna and Steve Stefano live in Phillipsburg with



their daughter **Amber**, age 16. They have faced many challenges on their road to becoming homeowners, and this year during a visit to The ReStore, they came across the partner family application.

"About a week later I filled out the application, said a prayer out loud and mailed it in with

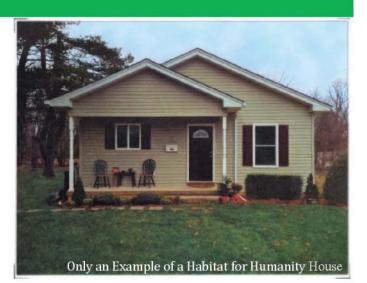
the hope for our very own house. And by the grace of God, we were selected as the next build for Habitat for Humanity. We are still pinching ourselves because it's like winning the lottery only so much better. We are so excited and can't wait to be a bigger part of the Habitat family. This means a new beginning and security for our family. A blessing we will never take for granted."



2021 Search In Partnership With Pohatcong Twp Affordable Housing Plan

Military & Veterans

We are currently seeking an **Active Military or Veteran Family** for a new 2-3 BR home located at: 312 Pennsylvania Avenue Pohatcong Township, NJ 08865



Part I Applications are Available Now Receipt Deadline for Part I is 3:00 PM, August 13, 2021

(there will be no exceptions)

0%* Interest Mortgage

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is seeking a low or moderate income **Military or Veteran Family** with household income between the below minimum and maximum levels, based on family size:

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maximum Income	\$55,950	\$63,950	\$71,950	\$79,900	\$86,300	\$92,700
Minimum Income	\$24,800	\$24,800	\$27,900	\$30,950	\$33,450	\$35,950

*Must be less than 80% of the 2021 median income in Warren County, NJ

Other Requirements:

- 1. Must have a housing need, e.g. spending more than 30% of gross income on housing
- 2. Must be willing to partner and to provide "sweat equity".
- 3. Must have the ability to pay (make payments on a mortgage).





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Stop by the WCHFH booth at the Warren County Farmers Fair from July 31st - August 7th. Volunteers are needed at the booth as well. For available days and times, please email Patty Swayne at wchfhvolunteer@gmail.com with your mailing address and phone number.



Over \$18,000 was raised at our **Second Annual Virtual Beams and Dreams Auction!** Thank you so much to each and every one of our supporters and sponsors who made the event a resounding success! Our special appreciation goes out to **Ruthann Disotell** and **Kathy Halpin,** Co-Chairwomen of the event, for their hard work.



The 50/50 Raffle Tickets are here! And since proceeds will support our Veterans Build in Pohatcong Township, the winning ticket will be drawn on Veterans Day, November 11th. The drawing will take place at our brand new Community Center at 12 Noon, so please join us! Tickets will be on sale at the WCHFH office as well as at The ReStore.



Bargains galore could be found inside and out at **The ReStore's Annual Sale on June 12th. Over \$9,000** was raised to support our mission! Many thanks to The ReStore staff and volunteers who always put their heart into their work, and for making this big sale a success.



The 2021 WCHFH Spring Golf Outing at Harkers Hollow raised over **\$5,000** and provided a relaxing time outdoors. We thank our participants and sponsors who supported this popular annual event!

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The Chobot Family: Michael, Dominique, and their two kids, Justice and Grayson, at their future home.



John Kling takes a break from framing out closet doors.



Deluxe skylight dining with Construction Manager Chris Motzenbecker and build site volunteers.



Dominique paints doors and makes it look like a lot of fun!



Deanna and Rob Irizarry work on finishing touches with the help of Patty Swayne.



Patty Swayne of Harmony, Jeff Doerr of Flemington and Dave Wernlund of Martins Creek at the build site.



BUILDING HOPE WCHFH Newsletter 3rd Quarter 2021 Submit your news and photos to Lori Jo Jamieson, Editor at lorijo.jamieson@gmail.com.

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Exciting News! New Grants Received; Year-end Appeal Update

Since last quarter's newsletter, WCHFH has been awarded generous grants. (Some are for specific projects, as noted.) The WCHFH Year-end Appeal was mailed out at the end of January and has raised **\$14,885.58** so far. Thank you!



Lydia Collins deForest Charitable Trust \$50,000 (Bank of America acts as co-trustee)



State Farm Youth Grants \$5,000 (for Hope in the Hills)



Truist Foundation \$25,000 (for Community Center)



Warren County Cultural and Heritage Commission \$2,000 (for Community Center Programming) THE JOHN & MARGARET POST FOUNDATION

John and Margaret Post Foundation \$20,000 (for our Home Builds)



The Provident Bank Foundation \$5,000 (for General Operating Support at Community Center)



Visions Credit Union \$1,000 (Support for Beams and Dreams Event)



Walmart of Clinton \$1,000

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We Love Our Volunteers!



Volunteer Phil Hagemann helps at our booth at the Sustainably Green Music & Arts Festival on June 19th in Washington. Habitat offered \$5 coupons to the ReStore and information was shared about WCHFH activities, including our Community Center.

Want to volunteer? Be like Phil! Call our office at 908- 835-1300



Suzanne McHaffie for over five years of service at our ReStore!



Amanda McDonald our new ReStore Manager!



More Exciting News! We are competing in the *A Community Thrives* fundraising competition with the USA Today Network Foundation. There are prizes for the total amount raised and the number of small individual donors who participate. We need to raise at

least \$6,000 in donations to meet some of our goals. The competition runs from July 19th at noon ET and runs through August 13th at noon ET.

Donations must be made by going to <u>A Community Thrives' website</u>. Only donations made through this link between **July 19th at noon ET** through **August 13th at noon ET** qualify! **Please support us in this way!**

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Meet Barbara Snyder, Fabrics Department Volunteer at The ReStore - by Lori Jo Jamieson



Shoppers who frequent the "Fabrics" department at The ReStore may be unaware of just how much time and effort Barbara Snyder puts into making items look so organized and attractive. This article hopes to spotlight how and why she generously shares her talents.

But first, a history lesson. Before The ReStore began stocking dishes, curtains, books, clothing, fabric, jewelry, and other treasures as it does today, this type of donation was sold at The Thrift Store. More like a gift boutique, it was located in two rooms of WCHFH's office space in downtown Washington. And it is here that in 2015, Barbara Snyder began helping out at the prompting of her sister, Judy Widenor, also a volunteer. Her duties included

folding, pricing and displaying napkins and tablecloths. She also waited on customers. In 2016, the opportunity arose to integrate The Thrift Store into The ReStore on Rt. 57 and create a "Boutique" section with a house façade. Fabric space was very limited. Former store manager, Melissa Flynn, created a larger, separate space for Fabrics in the main part of the store so the department could expand its inventory.

In 2018, the ReStore moved to its current location. Some of Barbara's suggestions for the Fabric Department were implemented, like creating deep shelving for comforters, space for pillows, doilies, and rods to hang curtains and drapes. Bar-

bara's friend, Sandy Watts, crafted the beautiful sign that welcomes shoppers to the "Fabrics" section.

A very important aspect of sorting incoming donations is passing along items that aren't suitable for resale. On this topic, Barbara made a point to share her spotlight with volunteer Ann Rogers. Ann passes these items along to homeless shelters, always doing what she can to repurpose. She also uses material to make simple quilts and laundry bags for Veterans and the homeless.

Barbara and her husband, Dick, (also a WCHFH volunteer) recently moved to Hampton, NJ, after selling their historic Changewater home, said to be the oldest in Warren County. The couple is active at their church, Changewater United Methodist. She also supports CareNet, an organization that provides resources for women with unwanted pregnancies, as well as Warren County Family Promise.

Asked why she chose to give her time to WCHFH, Barbara noted that as a shopper, she had observed how The ReStore volunteers served as a family, with big hearts. Then she chose to share a very personal reason: At age 29, with three small children at home, Barbara was in the hospital, diagnosed with early stage cancer. People from various ministries came to visit her, and she came to a realization - that God was going to keep her around for a purpose, and she would serve God through giving back her time to help others.

Barbara mentioned that she could always use more help with her duties. Interested? Call The ReStore at 908-835-1980. And remember, you don't have to lift a hammer to help WCHFH!



Barbara displays a like-new fabric shower curtain.

Comforters in their cubbies



Barbara sorting new donations with Amber and Donna Stefano, who are putting in volunteer hours as one of two new WCHFH partner families. (Not pictured, Steve Stefano)

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Warren County

ReStore



Shop. Donate. Volunteer.

Warren County Habitat for Humanity ReStore 384 Rt. 57, Washington, NJ 07882 908-835-1980

ReStore Shopping Hours: (Closed Sunday & Monday) Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Our Rewards Member Program

Every 2nd Thursday of the month is Rewards Member Discount Day. Members pick a discount card when checking out and receive 10%, 15%, or 20% off their entire **purchase! Not a member?** Sign up today by filling out a card at the register! It's free!

Next Rewards Member Discount Days: AUGUST 12th - SEPTEMBER 9th

Donations Drop-off Hours: 9:30-3:30 Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 9:30-5:30 Wednesday

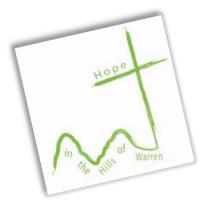
No appointment necessary, just drive around back. We will help you unload! Or, to schedule a pickup, please call 908-835-1980.

Have a donation in mind but not sure if we accept it? Please email photos to: donations@warrenhabitat.org

WE'RE HIRING!

The ReStore is Now Hiring for the Positions of **PART TIME WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATE** & **PART TIME TRUCK DRIVER.** Please email resume to: **restore@warrenhabitat.org**

See our newest inventory on Facebook! www.facebook.com/WCHFHStore



Our Weekend of Hope was a success! We had a total of 66 volunteers, including nine support staff. Of these 66 volunteers, 37 (25 adults/12 youth) were new volunteers! Eighteen of these new volunteers joined us from Atlantic Health System. We were so grateful to work alongside Atlantic Health's employees & their families!

Our volunteers provided 746 hours of volunteer work from 7:30am-4:30pm on Saturday and 12 noon - 5pm on Sunday, plus 4 more hours on Wednesday finishing another project. We worked on 21 homes and had homeowner requests for 53 tasks. By 5pm on Sunday, we completed 66 tasks (some big and some small) and had all the supplies stored away for next year! **For more information about Hope in the Hills of Warren**, visit us on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/HopeInTheHillsOfWarren</u>, and on Instagram, hhw.hopehills. Our email is hopeinthehillsvolunteers@gmail.com.

Our Mission Statement: "Seeking to put God's love into action, Hope in the Hills of Warren brings youth and adults together to restore homes, community, and hope."



Warren County Habitat for Humanity: "COMMUNITY CENTER 101"

There has been a buzz around WCHFH, an excitement about the kinds of programs and activities the future will bring. The potential for valuable, useful programs improving the lives of Warren County residents is virtually unlimited!



Why a Community Center?

You may have heard or seen the phrase "Habitat. Building homes, building community, building hope." Habitat for Humanity International has encouraged its affiliates, such as WCHFH, to widen its community impact.

Their program definition – "Neighborhood Revitalization is a holistic approach that expands Habitat's traditional partnership with new homeowners and volunteers to include neighbors and local organizations for a far greater impact in the communities served. While home construction continues to play a vital role, a bigger toolbox that includes repairs and other services allows Habitat to serve more families".

Where is the Community Center?

The Community Center is located at 31 Belvidere Avenue in Washington, NJ, a building with a rich community service legacy. The building is the site of the WCHFH offices and is located across from the Post Office. The main meeting room of the community center is housed in the rear of the building and is approximately 1800 square feet in size with an expected capacity of 75 people. The team is nearing the completion of reclaiming usable elements of the existing room and fitting the space for the future center.

How is it being funded?

In 2018, a US Department of Agriculture grant was secured enabling us to start planning for the center. A plan was developed for construction of the Community Center room. Subsequent grants and a generous anonymous donation by a private group allowed us to be able to start the project with confidence it would be completed this year.

Most of the funding to complete construction of the Community Center has been secured. Additional grants and public sponsorships will satisfy the remaining construction expenses. A recent grant from The Warren County Cultural and Heritage Commission will provide funding for programming.

What programs will be available?

The Habitat for Humanity Community Center will be made available for a wide variety of groups. But, the areas of focus will be those groups supporting youth, seniors, and Veterans.

How you can help

Sponsor today! Help build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter and community. We are always looking for corporate or small business sponsors to help us put on those vital finishing touches. A contribution offers the opportunity for a business to demonstrate its commitment to community. We need individuals to help out as well! Sponsorship and donation forms are available to contribute any amount toward this project at <u>warrenhabitat.org/CC</u>.

Interested in getting more information or exploring other ways to become involved?

Contact Jason "JJ" Norment at 908-420-9322, or send him an email at Jason.Norment@warrenhabitat.org.



New installation at Community Center



Artist rendering at left, current photo at right shows drop ceiling being installed

You are invited to join us in a Fundraiser to support Warren County "Habitat Veterans Build"

VonThun Family Farm is partnerning with **PAMPERED CHEF** to raise funds for

Habitat for Humanity

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization operated on Christian principles that seeks to put God's love into action by building homes, communities and hope. WCHFH is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes...This fundraiser is to support the Habitat Veterans Build in Pohatcong Township! We thank you for your support!

Need to Refresh your Kitchen Tools?

When you make a Pampered Chef purchase PC will donate a percentage of the sale to HFH! Simply use the QR code below to shop and order

For recipes and product info, games and kitchen tips, visit the Facebook group page by using the QR code at the bottom

PLACE YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA

OVER THE CODE to Shop & PLACE AN ORDER





PLACE YOUR CAMERA OVER THE CODE to Join the **Pampered Chef Fundraiser Facebook Page**



BUILD



31 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882 - (908) 835-1300 www.WarrenHabitat.org - Office@warrenhabitat.org